

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8

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DENVER, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
http://www.epa.gov/region08

NOV 1 7 2014

Ref: 8ENF-UFO

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL 7008-3230-0003-0724-9486</u> RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Terry Lindeman Manager/Production/Western Business Unit Elm Ridge Resources, Inc. PO Box 156 Bloomfield, NM 87413

Re: Underground Injection Control (UIC)

Notice of Violation

Failure to Submit Annular Pressures on Annual Monitoring Report

Fassett 1 SWD Well

Permit No. CO20910-04483

Ignacio-Blanco Field La Plata County, CO

Dear Mr. Lindeman:

Owners and operators of Class II injection wells are required to submit annual monitoring reports, and when applicable, a chemical analysis of injected fluids for the prior calendar year by February 15. The Environmental Protection Agency's records indicate that we have received an incomplete annual monitoring report for the well referenced above for calendar year 2013. This report, which includes the monthly minimum and maximum annular pressures, is required by the permit for the well operated by Elm Ridge Resources, Inc. The form 7520-11, Annual Disposal/Injection Well Monitoring Report, has columns for recording minimum and maximum tubing-casing annulus pressures. Even though column heading indicates that annular pressure reporting is optional, reporting of annular pressures is not optional if the UIC permit for a well states that it is required. Elm Ridge's failure to comply with this requirement is a violation of the permit for its well.

If you have the missing monitoring data, please submit it to the EPA immediately.

Failure to comply with a UIC Permit, or the UIC regulations found at 40 CFR Parts 144 through148 constitute one or more violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. § 300h. Such non-compliance may subject you to formal enforcement by the EPA, as codified at 40 CFR Part 22. If you have any questions concerning this letter, you may contact Don Breffle at (303) 312-6198. Please direct all correspondence to the attention of Don Breffle at Mail Code 8ENF-UFO.

Sincerely,

Arturo Palomares, Director

Water Technical Enforcement Program
Office of Enforcement, Compliance
and Environmental Justice

cc: The Honorable Clement Frost, Chairman, Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Tom Johnson, Division Head, Environmental Program, Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Robert P. Koehler, UIC Director, Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission